

Remarks

Claims 1-11, 17, 21-27, 34-37, 44-46, 48, 50-53, 55-75 and 85-91 are pending.

The allowability of depending Claims 16, 28, 46, 47, 49, 50, 69, 70 and 76 is acknowledged.

Claims 1, 24, 34, 44, 48, 51, 53, 55-58, 61-63, 73-74 and 85-89 have been amended. The limitations of allowed depending Claims 16, 28, 47, 49 and 76 (now canceled) have been incorporated into the related base claim as suggested by the Examiner..

The claims have been amended to clarify language used in the claims and/or the subject matter claimed. No new matter has been added. Support for the amendments is in the claims that have been canceled.

Reconsideration of the withdrawn claims is respectfully requested. The claims were withdrawn as being directed to non-elected species. It is noted that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species that depend from or otherwise include all limitations of an allowable generic claim.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) (Yang)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 10; 11, 17, 24, 34, 35, 37, 44, 62-65, 68, 73, 74, 75 and 85-88 under Section 102(e) as anticipated by Yang (USP 6,759,307). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner argues that Yang discloses each of the elements of the rejected claims.

In the Office Action at page 14, the Examiner indicated that the subject matter of Claims 16, 28, 46, 47, 49, 50, 69, 70 and 76 was allowable.

- a) Independent Claims 1, 24, 34, 62, 63 and 85-88 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowed depending Claims 16 and 28 (at least one cross member);
- b) Independent Claim 44 has been amended with the limitation of allowed depending Claim 47; and
- c) Claims 73 and 74 have been amended with the limitation of allowed Claim 76.

As such, the claims at issue all distinguish over Yang. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and then withdraw this rejection of the claims.

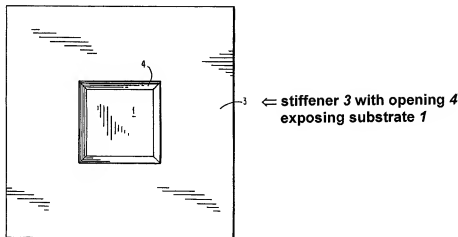
Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) (Johnson)

The Examiner rejected Claims 89-91 under Section 102(b) as anticipated by Johnson (USP 5,888,849). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 89 as now amended requires a *plurality* of stiffener components.

In contrast, Johnson teaches a stiffener 3 which is a single continuous, plate-like structure applied to a substrate 1 with an opening 4 for mounting a die/chip 6 onto the substrate 1. See Johnson's Fig. 8, which illustrates a top view of the molded device showing the single stiffener 3 with opening 4.

FIG. 8



Johnson fails to teach a *plurality* of components attached to a substrate as defined by Applicant's claims, and thus cannot anticipate Claims 89-91.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and then withdraw this rejection of the claims.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) (Yang)

The Examiner rejected the claims under Section 103(a) as obvious over Yang as follows:

- 1) Claims 3-8 as obvious over Yang;
- 2) Claims 9, 55, 56 and 67 as obvious over Yang in view of McMillan (USP 5,650,593);
- 3) Claims 36 and 76 as obvious over Yang in view of Hofstee (USP 6,541,847);
- 4) Claims 48 49 and 50 as obvious over Yang in view of Hofstee;
- 5) Claims 45, 64-66, 69, 70, 71, 75 and 76 as obvious over Yang in view of McMillan; and
- 6) Claims 23 and 60 as obvious over Yang in view of Gregory (USP 4,710,419).

First of all, in the Office Action at page 14, the Examiner indicated that the subject matter of Claims 49, 50, 69, 70 and 76 was allowable.

Claim 48 has been amended to incorporate the limitation of allowed Claim 49, and Claims 73-74 have been amended with the limitation of allowed Claim 76.

Secondly, Yang is *disqualified* as prior art under Section 103(a).

Yang was filed as USSN 09/703,920 on November 1, 2000, and issued as USP 6,759,307 on July 6, 2004.

The present application USSN 10/077,554 was filed February 15, 2002.

Applicant submits that Yang is disqualified as prior art under Section 103(a), as provided under Section 103(c)(1) and MPEP § 706.02(I).

As admitted by the Examiner in the Office Action at page 3, Yang qualifies as prior art only under *Section 102(e)*.

As provided under Section 103(c)(1), subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsections (e), (f), and (g) of Section 102, shall not preclude patentability under Section 103 where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the claimed invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Applicant hereby states as follows:

Yang USSN 09/703,920 and the claimed invention USSN 10/077,554 were jointly owned by Micron Technology, Inc. at the time of the invention of the present application.

Accordingly, withdrawal the rejection of the claims based Yang alone or in combination with any of McMillan, Hofstee or Gregory is proper and respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and then withdraw these rejections of the claims.

Extension of Term.

The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.136 apply. Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time. If any extension and/or fee are required, please charge Account No. 23-2053.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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